

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES



Quick Facts about Medicare's New Coverage for Prescription Drugs for people who get help from their state pharmacy program to pay for their prescriptions.

Starting January 1, 2006, Medicare will offer prescription drug plans to help you pay for the prescriptions you need. If you don't join a Medicare prescription drug plan by May 15, 2006, you will pay a higher premium.

What do I need to know?

- Each state will decide how its State Pharmacy Assistance Program will work with Medicare prescription drug coverage. Some states may choose to give extra coverage when you join a Medicare prescription drug plan. Some states may have a separate state program that helps with prescriptions.
- You should contact your State Pharmacy Assistance Program to get more information. The table at the end of this fact sheet lists the phone numbers for each State Pharmacy Assistance Program.
- Many people with limited income and resources will get extra help paying for their prescription drug coverage. If you have limited income and in 2006 your resources are less than \$11,500 (single) or \$23,000 (married), you may qualify for this extra help. People with the lowest incomes and resources will get the most help.
- Some people will automatically qualify and Medicare will send them a letter to let them know. Some people who may qualify will receive a letter and an application form from the Social Security Administration (SSA). If you get an application in the mail fill it out and mail it in the postage paid envelope included. If you don't get an application in the mail from SSA but think you qualify for extra help contact SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov on the web.

How can I get more information?

Call your State Pharmacy Assistance Program at the number provided at the end of this fact sheet. Detailed information will be available in **October 2005**. You can look at the "Medicare & You 2006" handbook, visit www.medicare.gov on the web, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. For more information on who can get extra help with prescription drug costs and how to apply, call SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov on the web.



How can I get more information? (continued)

Call your State Pharmacy Assistance Program at the phone number on the table.

| State | Name of Program | Phone Number |
|----------------|---|------------------------------|
| Connecticut | ConnPace | 800-423-5026 800-994-9422 |
| Delaware | Delaware Prescription Assistance Program (DPAP) | 800-996-9969 x17 |
| Illinois | Illinois SeniorCare or Circuit Breaker and Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs | 800-226-0768 800-624-2459 |
| Indiana | Hoosier Rx | 866-267-4679 |
| Kansas | Kansas Senior Pharmacy Assistance Program | 785-296-4986 800-432-3535 |
| Maryland | Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program or Senior Short Term Prescription Drug Plan | 800-226-2142 800-972-4612 |
| Massachusetts | Prescription Advantage | 800-243-4636 |
| Maine | Maine Rx Plus or Maine Low Cost Drugs for the Elderly and Disabled Program | 866-796-2463 800-262-2232 |
| Michigan | Michigan's Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage | 866-747-5844 |
| Minnesota | Minnesota's Prescription Drug Program | 800-333-2433 |
| Missouri | Missouri Senior Rx Program | 800-375-1406 |
| North Carolina | North Carolina Senior Care | 866-226-1388 |
| New Jersey | Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged & Disabled or Senior Gold Prescription Discount | 800-792-9745 |
| Nevada | Senior Rx | 866-303-6323 |
| New York | Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) Program | 800-332-3742 |
| Pennsylvania | PACE-Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly or PACENET | 800-225-7223 |
| Rhode Island | R.I. Pharmaceutical Assistance Program to the Elderly (RIPAE) | 401-462-3000 |
| Texas | Kidney Health Care Program | 800-222-3986 |
| Vermont | VHAP (Vermont Health Access Plan) Pharmacy Benefit or VSCRIPT | 800-250-8427 |
| Wisconsin | Senior Care | 800-657-2038 |
| Wyoming | Prescription Drug Assistance Program | 800-438-5785 |

Note: States that aren't listed don't have one of these programs.

